

# 2016 Maine Artist Fellowship Award Winner

## Kirsten Monke, Performing Arts

A viola player associated primarily for her work with the award-winning chamber music group, the DaPonte String Quartet, Kirsten says, “The Quartet originally came to Maine long ago as part of a rural residency grant whose mission was to become ‘embedded’ in a community. We liked our community so much we decided to stay—and we now feel thoroughly woven into the fabric of Maine.” A native

of Brunswick, the voice of the viola has inspired and nurtured Kirsten’s lifelong interest in music. In addition to the DaPonte’s busy concert schedule, she recently joined the faculty of Rockport’s Bay Chamber Community Music School, maintains a small private studio in the Brunswick area and is currently studying Middle Eastern music. More at [www.daponte.org](http://www.daponte.org).

◀ *Kirsten Monke works with the DaPonte String Quartet to “reflect the natural beauty we see all around us every day.”*

